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Congressman Says Rights Violated In Spy Approval

WASHINGTON, May 17 (UPI) — Rep. William H. Meyer (D-Vt.) maintained today his constitutional rights and duties as a House member were violated by the congressional approval of U.S. spy funds.

Meyer, in a speech to the House, called for an inquiry "leading to remedial action."

Meyer cited recent affirmation that annual appropriations for the Central Intelligence Agency have been considered by a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Subcommittee and then hidden in funds for other agencies. Spy flights over Russia also were approved in advance by this subcommittee.

Most House and Senate members, he said, never get a chance to consider the intelligence funds nor were they apprised of the espionage flights. He said this was in violation of the constitution, which vests defense powers in Congress generally, not in certain of its members.